Joint Resolution

Designating December 1979 as “National Child Abuse Prevention Month”.

Whereas each year in the United States one million children are victims of child abuse and neglect, including three thousand who die;

Whereas the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act of 1974 has yet to fulfill its mandate of being the cornerstone of a United States policy for child abuse prevention and treatment;

Whereas a dedicated core of organizations and individuals (including the National Alliance for the Prevention of Child Abuse; the New York Foundling Hospital and its director, Doctor Vincent Fontana; Children’s Village; and the National Center for the Prevention of Child Abuse and its director, C. Henry Kempe, doctor of medicine) are leaders in the effort to focus greater attention on and resources into the movement to combat child abuse and neglect; and

Whereas the month of December 1979 is the final month in the observance of the International Year of the Child: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That December 1979 is designated as “National Child Abuse Prevention Month” and the President is requested to issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to observe such month with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

Approved November 16, 1979.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 125 (1979):
Oct. 26, considered and passed House.
Nov. 7, considered and passed Senate.